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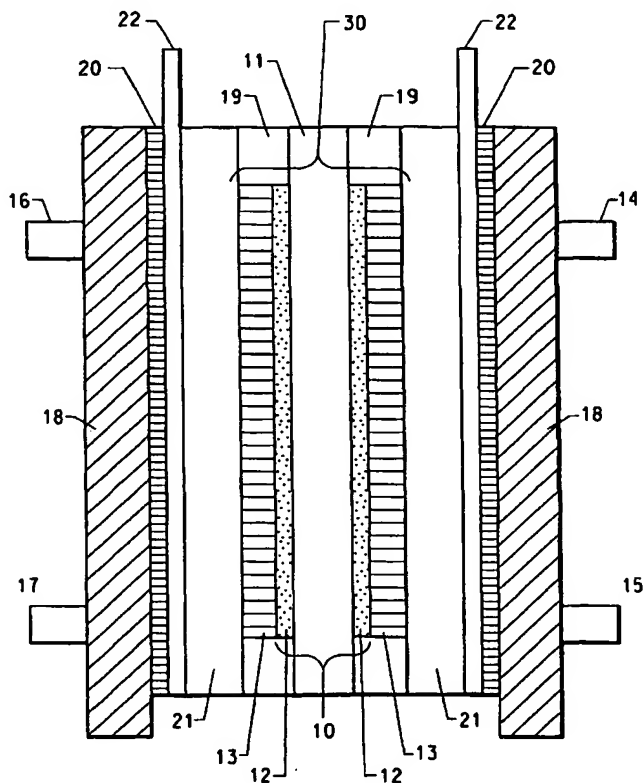
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LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW,  
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD FOR REGENERATION OF PERFORMANCE IN A FUEL CELL



(57) Abstract: A process for improved performance in a fuel cell or stack of fuel cells wherein the fuel cell has a cathode, an anode, an anode chamber, a cathode chamber, a fuel comprising an anolyte that flows through an inlet (14), the cell and an outlet (15), and a catholyte gas, wherein each electrode comprises a catalyst (12) and a gas diffusion backing (13), and wherein the fuel cell is connected to an external load, which process comprises taking the load off the cell, and cycling between a minimum voltage and about 50% of the maximum voltage drawn from the fuel cell until a maximum current is reached, or a minimum load and about 50% of the maximum load until a maximum voltage is reached. Fuel cell performance is further enhanced by purging.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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PCT/US03/31236

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : H01M 8/00, 8/04

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## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 429/13-15, 22, 23, 34, 38, 39

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
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## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A, E	US 6,656,639 B1 (HAGG et al) 02 December 2003 (02.12.2003), column 8, lines 19-26, column 17, lines 26-30.	1-37
A, P	US 2002/0182456 A1 (CONDIT et al) 05 December 2002 (05.12.2002), sections 0006, 0028, 0040 and 0041.	1-37
A, E	US 2003/0224228 A1 (REISER et al) 04 December 2003 (04.12.2003), sections 0016, 0018 and 0020.	1-37

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